

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3159

S E C R E T GENEVA 8461

NODIS

FOR SCHAUFLE FROM WISNER

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, RH

SUBJ: MEETING WITH SMITH, OCT. 28

1. IAN SMITH RECEIVED ME IN HIS HOTEL ROOM FOR A BRIEF MEETING AT 12:30 LOCAL TIME. SMITH ACCEPTED THE MESSAGE I CONVEYED PER INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL CONCERNING OUR DIFFERENCES OF INTERPRETATION AND OFFERED NO FURTHER COMMENT ON THE TOPIC.

2. IN REGARD TO THE SPEECH HE INTENDS TO DELIVER THIS AFTERNOON, HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT THERE WOULD BE MANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT WHAT HE WOULD SAY. "IF ANYTHING, IT WILL BE TOO SHORT," HE SAID. HE EXPECTS THE AFRICANS TO DIRECT MOST OF THEIR FIRE TOWARD THE BRITISH. (THIS IS OUR UNDERSTANDING AS WELL.)

3. SMITH THEN SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT THE BRITISH WERE ABOUT TO GIVE THE AFRICAN DELEGATIONS COPIES OF THE MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY WHICH WAS PASSED TO HIM FROM PRETORIA VIA AMBASSADOR BOWDLER AND AIR VICE MARSHAL HAWKINS. I IMMEDIATELY CORRECTED HIM AND NOTED THAT THE DOCUMENT WHICH WAS GOING TO BE PASSED SIMPLY CONTAINED THE FIVE POINTS WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY APPEARED IN THE PRESS AFTER HE SPOKE ON SEPTEMBER 24. I FURTHER ASSURED HIM THAT WE WOULD NEVER CONTEMPLATE

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HANDING OVER CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS WITHOUT DISCUSSING

THE MATTER FIRST.CATTO

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